

# Piece of Paper Press

Katharine Meynell

**SOIL**

POPP.044

20 September 2024

<https://pieceofpaperpress.com>

**PIECE OF PAPER PRESS** is delighted to publish *SOIL* by Katharine Meynell in a numbered limited edition of 150 copies (and 37 unnumbered proofs), with up to half of the print run to be given away free during a launch/performance at Matt's Gallery, London on Friday 20 September, 6–8:00pm.

*SOIL* is a text work distilled from images, events and performances created during a residency at Live Art Ireland, Tipperary in 2023 – a period of time that Meynell dedicated to thinking and reading about and working with soil. First performed at Live Art Ireland (and documented in the video work of the same name), part love poem, part spell, and threaded through with acrostics and word games, this edition strips away that larger work to reveal a joyful and productive residue, rich in life, 'where matter meets in past and future . . . composing becoming'. Here, the hand-made and ephemeral character of the Piece of Paper Press format addresses itself to the way that Meynell 'domesticates the tools of her trade . . . It becomes simply that medium which is at hand when a certain moment occurs or a certain event takes place.' (Andrea Phillips, *Lux Online*)

## MEYNELL WRITES:

In and of the soil, as a delicate yet mighty balancing act. It started as a diary written during a 'soil residency' in Tipperary, it became a performance sitting in a bucket of earth and lying in a duvet of turf. Infused with the dearth of justice, my thoughts shifted between resignation and hope. I raked over these and a collage of images were subsequently added. This is an account of a symbiotic bond to the earth, it takes a dip into the political, economic and biological. It reflects on the proximity to soil that is emotional, physical and inevitable.

**Artist, scholar and author, Katharine Meynell** works in moving image, performance, drawing, and artists' books. Her interests concern the personal & the political, the absurd, and slippery lines between document and fiction. She has an MA (Environmental Media) and PhD (Painting School) from the RCA. She has been Abbey Fellow at the British School at Rome, Artist in Residence at The Nordic Artists' Centre, Live Art Ireland, and at Guest Projects with GraceGraceGrace. Her publishing arm is the Boundary Street Press, nominated with the Gefn Press for the Prix Bob Calle in 2023. Meynell's videos are distributed by LUX. Her artists books are in collections at the V&A, Wellcome Trust, Poetry Library, Tate Gallery, British Council, Live Art Development Agency; Museum Van Het Boek, Museum of Modern Art, NY; The Library of Congress; Walker Art Center; Yale College; The Ampersand Foundation; Fondation Jan Michalski; etc.

**PIECE OF PAPER PRESS IS AN ARTISTS' BOOK SERIES CREATED BY AUTHOR TONY WHITE IN 1994.** It was designed as a low-tech, sustainable format to commission and publish new writings, visual and graphic works by artists and writers. Each miniature copy is made from a single A4 sheet that is printed on both sides and then folded, stapled and trimmed by hand to create the book. There is no schedule; titles are published when they are ready.

**PIECE OF PAPER PRESS TITLES ARE ALWAYS DISTRIBUTED FREE**, usually in a limited edition of 150. Fifty copies are distributed by the contributor, and around a hundred to the press's slowly evolving mailing list, which is gradually displaced by past contributors. Remaining copies are added to the project's archive.

**TONY WHITE** is the critically-acclaimed author of novels including *The Fountain in the Forest* and *Foxy-T*. A former writer in residence at the Science Museum, he is currently a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund, and Associate Lecturer on the Creative Writing MA at Birkbeck.

'Tony White's deliberately lo-fi and generous-spirited Piece of Paper Press.' TLS

## PIECE OF PAPER PRESS titles, 1994–present

Where marked, certain titles are accessible (subject to the respective institutional regulations) in the following collections: Arnolfini archive, Bristol (\*); Chelsea College of Arts/UAL Library (+); Live Art Development Agency study room (§); and UCL Small Press Collections, London (§) – with thanks to the various donors. (Other titles currently in process of acquisition/cataloguing TBC.)

- POPP.001—Tony White, *Title Track* §
- POPP.002—Stephanie Fawbert, *Glancing* §, +
- POPP.003—Jane Gifford, *Dream Journal* §, +
- POPP.004—Tim Etchells, *About Lisa: a small bad story in twelve good parts* §, +
- POPP.005—Penny McCarthy, *Bedrooms* §, +
- POPP.006—Peter Bunting, *Seven Views of Geneva* §
- POPP.007—Mikey Cuddihy, untitled §, +
- POPP.008—Gordana Stanišić, *On Moles* §, +
- POPP.009—Artist/Writer, *Default 1*
- POPP.010—Rose Frain, *Between 12 Noon and 2 PM* +
- POPP.011—James Pyman, *The Adventures of Lionel Through the Moon* +
- POPP.012—Tony White, *A0* +,
- POPP.013—Suzanne Treister, *Vibrators from the House of Brodsky* +
- POPP.014—Pavel Büchler, *Good Guys* +
- POPP.015—Elizabeth Magill
- POPP.016—Christopher Hewitt, *Hollywood Leather*
- POPP.017—Borivoj Radaković, *Posjetiteljeva Knjiga (Visitor's Book)*
- POPP.018—Bruce Gilchrist, *Drawing from Perplexity* §
- POPP.019—Alison Turnbull, *Black Borders 1994-2006* \*
- POPP.020—James Pyman, *The Adventures of Lionel: The Book of Hours* \*, §
- POPP.021—Stevie Deas, *Cleanskins* \*
- POPP.022—Halford + Beard, *Czar 52 Crash* \*
- POPP.023—Tony White, *London Palm* \*
- POPP.024—Barbara Campbell, *News Haiku* \*
- POPP.025—Liliane Lijn, *ATOMANOTES*
- POPP.026—Tony White, *A Porky Prime Cut*
- POPP.027—Michael Moorcock, *A Twist in the Lines*
- POPP.028—Tony White, *The Holborn Cenotaph*
- POPP.029—Joanna Walsh, *Shklovsky's Zoo*
- POPP.030—Steven Hull, *CARNEVIL*
- POPP.031—Ian Bourn, *Subjective Interfaces*
- POPP.032—Susana Medina, *The Bowie Neurotransmitter*
- POPP.033—Sheena Rose, *HOME IS ON MY MIND...*
- POPP.034—Joolz Denby, *Dandelion* ‡
- POPP.035—M John Harrison, *Real Dreams* ‡
- POPP.036—Courtia Newland, *That Small Death* ‡
- POPP.037—Selina Thompson, *12 Race Card Answers* ‡
- POPP.038—*Leaving Present Prototype (for Jane Rolo)*. (NB edition limited to a single unmade book)
- POPP.039—Vanishing History Dub
- POPP.040—David Hayden, *Good Pizza*
- POPP.041—Sharon Kivland, *THE INCORRUPTIBLE*
- POPP.042—Andrea Mason, *BOOK DRAWINGS #1–12*
- POPP.043—Tim Etchells, *Coronation Day*
- POPP.044—Katharine Meynell, *SOIL*